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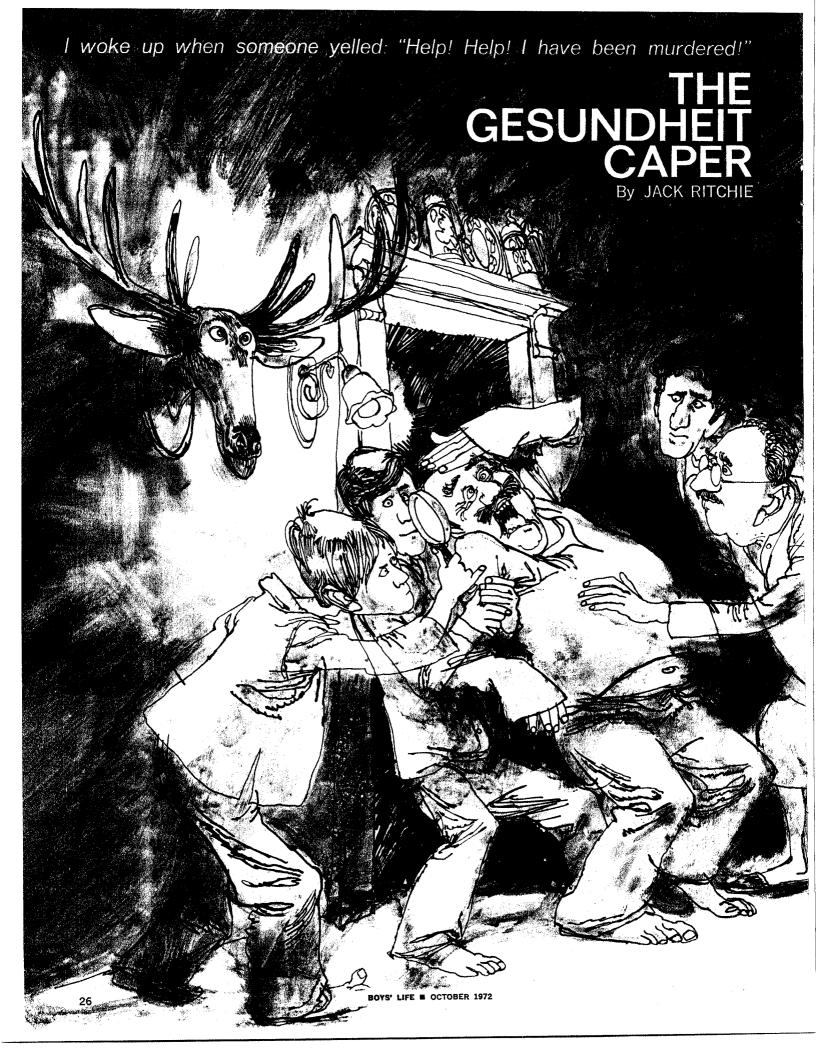


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err Schimmel snapped open the blue velvet case. There it is. The Star

of Liechtenstein." // Liechtenstein. necklace with a thin gold chain and some littings sparkling at the end.

Major Wilkerson squinted slightly. "How big is the center diamond?" he asked.

"Nearly five carats," Schimmel said proudly. More than twice the size of the Star of Andorra. And, as you will notice, it is surrounded by amethysts and a multitude of lapis lazuli.

The reason that I'm in Liechtenstein is that I'm the exchange student for the year. That means Stevenson High, back in the States, gets a student from Liechtenstein and sends one of its own over here to the Gymnasium. which is what they call a high school.

I'm boarding with the Bentheimers, not too far from the country's capital, Vaduz, and they operate an inn. That's a place where they board people, mostly tourists who happened to come through Liechtenstein or got lost.

The Bentheimers have a son, Heinrich, who's my age and in my Gymnasium class and we get along just fine.

Herr Schimmel continued: "The Star of Liechtenstein was found, in the steaming jungles of India over 400 years ago by the famous Liechtenstein explorer, adventurer, and raconteur, Erich Mittlehaus, He removed it from the forehead of a small idol and presented it to the city of Vaduz and today it is the only municipally owned blue diamond in the free world."

Dr. Galvani leaned



Gesundheit Caper

(Continued from page 27) forward. "I suppose there's a curse on it?"

"There is still some specula-

tion on this," Herr Schimmel said. "Our scholars are continuing to do research. But let me tell you, whenever anybody wearing a turban comes through Liechtenstein, we keep a sharp look on him."

We were all in the public parlor of the inn. Outside it was night and it was beginning to snow.

Besides the Bentheimers and me, there was Major Wilkerson. who was retired from the English army and touring Europe, and Dr. Galvani from Italy who was here to catch the skiing.

The Star of Liechtenstein is usually kept in the safe at the Vaduz town hall, but Herr Schimmel had it with him because he was going to exhibit it at the International Trade Fair for Class C Nations, which this year was being held in San Marino, and he wanted to leave real early in the morning.

He was also taking along a Volkswagen load of ethnic costumes, like lederhosen and folk-dance dresses, and he even had a box of edelweiss keeping fresh in the Bentheimer's refrigerator.

He snapped the case shut and put it back in his jacket pocket. He stifled a yawn and then looked at his pocket watch. "It is not yet late, but I shall retire early so that tomorrow I will be alert and on my toes."

Heinrich and I had already done our homework-of which they give plenty in Liechtenstein-and so we watched television for a while.

I'd seen most of the programs

before, back home, but if you've never seen "Mod Squad" done in the Liechtenstein dialect. you're missing something.

We were just about to turn in after the 10 o'clock news, when

the front door of the inn opened, letting in some snow and this tall man who was pretty well bundled up and had what you might call burning black eves.



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He explained himself to the Bentheimers. "My name is Kasim. I find traveling on the road is becoming extremely difficult because of the snow and I thought that perhaps I could

be put up here for the night?" Heinrich and I watched him

sign the register, and then we went up to our room and got into our pajamas.

Heinrich frowned. "Would

you not say that this Kasim came from the mysterious East?'

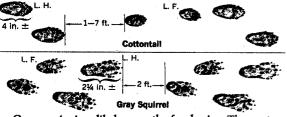
"Don't worry about it," I said. "He wasn't wearing a turban." I looked out of the window. The moon was really full and it was snowing pretty hard. Outside at the end of the driveway I could see the guests' cars already covered with two or three inches of snow.

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them into view. Experts recommend the use of a scope both for spotting the game and sighting,

Going after rabbits and squirrels calls for a 22 that's accurate, easy to handle and fast-firing. Among the fine Remington repeaters, a good choice would be either our Model 552 "Speedmaster" Automatic orour Model 572 "Fieldmaster" Pump-Action

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Squirrel hunting is popular, too. How ever, the conditions are different Model 552A \$72.95* Model 572 BDL Deluxe \$82.95* 2 medium onlons, sliced
½ inch thick
4 or 5 small potatoes, quartered
1 can tomatoes 1 rabbit, cut in serving pieces Nearly every stand of trees that has acorns, nuts, pine Sprinkle rabbit with salt and pepper and flour. Fry in oil until lightly browned. Layer rabbit, onlons, potatoes in casserole. Cover with tomatoes Bake in 350° F. oven 2 hours. Serve on hot biscuits. Serves 4 to 6. cones or berries also has squirrels, so finding them is easy. But when a squirrel sees or hears a hunter, he usually hides in a tree and stays there. Unlike a rabbit, no amount of noise or commotion is going to budge a squirrel. Sitting still and quiet will often

Early morning is the best time to hunt squirrels. You can usually hear them in the trees, scolding or dropping shells. Once you hear one, study the tree carefully to find him. Squirrels are curious, so a squirrel call can sometimes bring

4 squirrels, cut in serving pieces 2 tablespoons butter 1/4 cup olive oil sait, pepper 2 cloves garlic, crushed

½ teaspoon rosemary 1 cup dry white wine 1 cup chicken broth 1 tablespoon chopped parsley 2 cups sliced mushrooms

Sauté squirrei in butter and oil until lightly browned add salt and pepper to taste, garlic, rosemary, wine and broth; simmer until nearly done, turning often. Add parsley and mushrooms; cook 5 minutes. Serves 4.



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produce good results.

and fell asleep right away. It was about two the morning

I got under my thick feather quilt

when I woke up and so did Heinrich. The reason for that was that someone was yelling, "Help! Help! I have been murdered!"

We rushed out into the hall, which was filling with the other people who'd been wakened up, and there stood Herr Schimmel in the doorway of his room, holding the side of his head.

"I have been attacked and struck," announced. "Possibly fatally." He took his hand away from his head, and sure enough, there was this bump forming.

He turned to Dr. Galvani. "Would you please have a look at my head and make a careful diagnosis?"

Dr. Galvani cleared his throat. "Actually I am a doctor of philosophy. You'd be surprised at how often a situation such as this occurs. Yesterday on my way here a child got trainsick and his mother expected me to . . ."

Heinrich's father, wearing a flannel nightgown, examined Schimmel's wound, "Your head seems solid enough. I do not think anything is broken."

Schimmel drank from a glass of water somebody had handed him. "I was lying peacefully asleep when I felt hands on my throat and as I rose to protest, I was struck by this shadowy figure."

"How long were you unconscious?" Major Wilkerson asked.

"Actually I was not rendered

fully unconscious," Schimmel said. "Merely stunned and surprised. It took me perhaps only a minute to recover and rise."

Schimmel's eyes got a little wide and so we all turned to see what they got wide about.

It was Kasim coming out of his room, wearing a silk robe.

Schimmel dashed back into his room and brought out his jacket. He took out the blue velvet case and opened it.

The Star of Liechtenstein was gone.

Schimmel glared at Kasim. "From which country are you? From India. perhaps?"

"West Pakistan," Kasim said.

"Ha!" Schimmel said, "That is close enough. Your people have sent you to recover the Star of Liechtenstein. However, it will not work. We have laws in Liechtenstein, you know."

Kasim raised an eyebrow. "The Star of Liechtenstein? I have heard of it. Is it not approximately the size of the Star of the Canary Islands?"

"Bigger," Schimmel said firmly.

Kasim seemed interested. "How much is the Star of Liechtenstein worth?"

Schimmel snorted. "Worth? Let us say that it is invaluable. After all, how many small idols with diamonds in their foreheads are there left?"

Heinrich moved into Schimmel's room. "There it is. The weapon that struck Herr Schimmel. That heavy glass ashtray on the table beside his bed."

Heinrich smiled all around. "You will notice that there is

tobacco ash scattered about the floor and also upon the bedclothes. Therefore I conclude that the intruder used the ashtray as his weapon."

Major Wilkerson peered at it.

"In that case the bounder's fingerprints ought to be still on it."

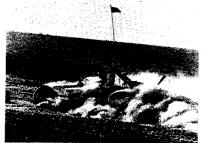
Heinrich shook his head. "You will also notice that the ashtray is not only empty, but almost sparkling

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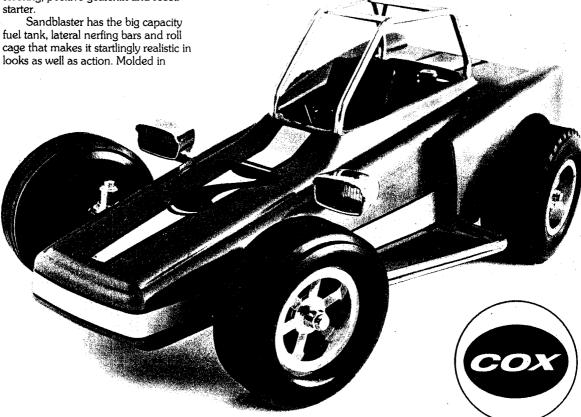
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clean. No, the assailant suddenly realized, after striking Herr Schimmel, that his fingerprints would be on the ashtray. So he hastily wiped them off before he fled." Heinrich tapped his forehead significantly. "It is these little things that one must observe. The dot over the 't,' the cross through the 'i.'"

Schimmel pointed at Kasim. "I demand that this man be searched."

Heinrich's father held up a hand. "I think we should let the authorities do this. I will call the police in Vaduz."

We all followed him downstairs to the wall phone in the kitchen.

When he hung up, he turned to us and smiled. "The police are assigning Inspector Dittmann to this case. He is the finest police official in all of Liechtenstein and it is known that he wears his uniform to breakfast, even on his days off."

Heinrich disappeared for about five minutes and then returned. "I have been to north, south, east, and west windows. The snow about the house, of which there is considerable, does not contain one single footprint upon it, either coming in or leaving. Therefore this is what is known as a Contained Situation. The assailant and thief is at this very moment still in the house."

"Would anybody like a nice hot cup of coffee?" Frau Bentheimer asked.

We were all sitting at the big table in the dining room having coffee and cheese cake, when the phone rang.

Heinrich's father answered it and came back. "That was Inspector Dittmann's wife. At this moment she has her four daughters helping her husband shovel the snow out of their driveway. It should not be long before the inspector arrives."

Heinrich rubbed his jaw. "If the thief is intelligent, he must know that his person, his be-

longings, and this entire house, if necessary, will be thoroughly searched. Therefore he must have supreme confidence in the hiding place he has chosen for the Star of Liechtenstein. Perhaps he has discovered some secret hiding place in the house?"

Heinrich's father shook his head. "This inn has been in the family for 300 years. If there is a secret hiding place I am certain that my father or my grandfather would have told me. We were all very close."

After about 15 minutes the phone rang again.

Heinrich's father took the call and came back. "The inspector's daughters have successfully pushed him out of his driveway and he is now on his way to the police station where he will assemble his men. He will be here soon."

Heinrich helped himself to some cheese cake. "Last year Inspector Dittman solved the disappearance of Frau Biemiller's chickens when he apprehended two German hikers at the border. The evidence was still in their packs, dressed, but not yet cooked."

Dr. Galvani took a handkerchief out of his pocket and sneezed.

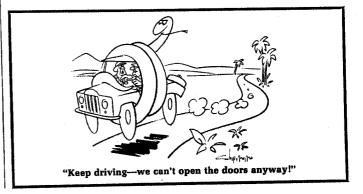
"Gesundheit," everybody said, except Herr Schimmel.

He looked hard at Dr. Galvani. "Perhaps the thief had sufficient time to dart outside bareheaded and conceal the Star of Liechtenstein, during which process he caught cold?"

Dr. Galvani's jaw was thrust forward slightly. "Germs do not work that fast. If I stole the necklace and caught cold, I would not begin sneezing until tomorrow. This much medicine I know."

Heinrich shook his head. "No one left the house for even a brief moment. The snow outside would certainly show his footprints if he had."

Dr. Galvani sneezed again.



He got another round of gesundheits.

Heinrich stared at Dr. Galvani and then seemed to brighten. "After the thief struck Herr Schimmel with the ashtray he wiped off his fin-

gerprints, no?"

We nodded.

Heinrich smiled. "But with what did he wipe off his fingerprints? I remember distinctly that except for the scattered tobacco ashes on Herr Schimmel's bed, there was no actual smear anywhere, such as would have been made had the thief used any of the bedclothes to wipe off the ashtray. Then what did he use?"

We didn't know. Heinrich's smile widened. "Why not his handkerchief?"

Why not? We all agreed.

"And so," Heinrich said, "if he used his handkerchief to wipe out the ashtray, then certainly that handkerchief should have some tobacco ash stains upon it, no?"

Heinrich frowned thoughtfully. "It is possible he has thrown away this handkerchief by now, but on the other hand it remains a good bet that he has retained it-probably on his person at this very moment - because he was not aware until I brought up the subject, that there exists such a stain to incriminate. After all, it was dark in Herr Schimmel's room when he wiped the ashtray."

Heinrich looked around the room. "Of course I do not have the authority to search any of you, but it would be highly appreciated if you will volunteer to exhibit your handkerchiefs to me." All of us pulled out handkerchiefs from our pockets.

Except Major Wilkerson.

We stared at him.

His face got red. "Coincident-

ly I do believe my handkerchief has some smears on it. However they are boot-polish stains. I distinctly remember wiping some polish off my hands yesterday morning-or perhaps it was even the day before." Heinrich smiled. "In that case you will, of course, have no objection in giving the handkerchief to Inspector Dittmann? He will send it to





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the police laboratory in Geneva -with whom we have a reciprocal law and order treatywhere the stain will be analyzed and compared with the ashes of Herr Schimmel's tobacco."

Major Wilkerson seemed to chew on his mustache for a while. "All right. Perhaps I do have Schimmel's tobacco ash stains on my handkerchief. However I doubt very much if it is enough to convict me of anything without the corpus delicti, which in this case happens to be the Star of Liechtenstein itself."

He helped himself to more cheese cake.

We all stared at him again and I wondered if he was really a major retired from the English army or an international jewel thief fallen on bad times.

"Would anyone like some more coffee?" Frau Bentheimer asked.

The phone rang and Heinrich's father went to answer it. When he came back, he said, "That was Inspector Dittmann himself calling from the Riedl farm half a mile from here. He and his men are temporarily stalled in a snowdrift and must wait for the arrival of a snowplow. We are not to despair."

Heinrich was thinking again.

"Herr Schimmel, you say that Major Wilkerson choked you?" he asked.

Schimmel touched his head. "Now that I think upon this again, he was not actually choking me. But he had a grasp upon the shirt-front of my pajamas. Then he struck me."

puzzled. Heinrich seemed "You were asleep. The major could easily have taken the Star of Liechtenstein without wakening you. Then why did he?"

Major Wilkerson put sugar into his coffee.

Heinrich blinked. "But of course. The thief, realizing that he and the house would certainly be thoroughly searched, knew that he would have to hide the Star of Liechtenstein somewhere outside."

Schimmel frowned. "But how could he do that without leaving footprints in the snow?"

Heinrich had a victory smile. "Suppose the robbery actually took place hours earlier? The major slipped into your room and quietly removed the Star of Liechtenstein without waking you up. Then he hid the necklace outside. After that he waited several hours until the snow had covered his footsteps completely and then he returned to your room. There he deliberate-



ly woke you and struck you firmly, but rather lightly, with the ashtray, so that you would rouse the entire household and all of us would assume that the necklace had been stolen only

a few moments before."

Schimmel seemed depressed by a sudden thought.

"Obviously major will not tell us where he has hidden the Star of Liechtenstein. We will have to wait until the spring thaw to find it."

Heinrich didn't think so. "It is my further speculation that the thief was so confident of his scheme that he had the devil-may-care gall to hide the Star of Liechtenstein in his own car."

We watched Ma-Wilkerson ior yawn.

I guess he hadn't been that devilmay-care after all. But on the other hand, I thought that Heinrich might still have something there because Major Wilkerson's eyes had flickered just a little bit.

"Maybe not in his own car," I said. "But in somebody's car."

Heinrich gave that thought and then brightened. "And I know which one it is.'

Personally didn't see how it made much difference which one. Inspector Dittmann could search them all until he found it. But Heinrich was deducing.

"Not in Dr. Galvani's car, or Herr Schimmel's, or Mr. Kasim's. After all, they could simply drive away and the major would lose track of the necklace forever. No, there had to be some permanency -some place where he could claim the Star of Liechtenstein at his safety and convenience." Heinrich turned to his father. "And that would be our car. There he could leave it for weeks or months and then some

day return casually, register for the night, and pick up the necklace while we were all asleep."

Major Wilkerson put down his coffee cup. "Very well, let us suppose that the Star of Liechtenstein is found in your car, Herr Bentheimer. How does that implicate me?" He smiled with kind of sharp teeth. "Frankly, sir, I rather think that it puts you on the spot.

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Entries must be postmarked by December 14, 1972 and received by December

19, 1972.

19, 19/2.

4. The Ten First Prizes of 3-day all expense paid trips to the Dallas Pro Bowl and Rookle Awards Ceremony, January, 1973 includes the winner and his/her chosen guest. The "All Expense Paid" statement as contained in this promotion means that there will be no charge to the winning pair for round-trip airfare from the nearest commercial airport, and reasonable hoard and room airport and reasonable hoard and room airport, and reasonable board and room expenses. Each of the ten prize winning pairs will receive a one-time cash payment of \$100 for personal and incidental expenses, and will attend the NFL Pro Bowl Rookies of the Year Awards Ceremony as the guest of Wheatles.

5. Two Grand Prizes will be 1973 American Motors Javelin cars and will be ican Motors Javelin cars and will be awarded by a drawing to two of the ten first prize winners.

6. The One Thousand Second Prizes will be Izod knit sport shirts. Winners

10 First Prizes

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will be able to select size and color

7. Prize winners will be determined by random drawings, conducted by an independent judging organization whose decision will be final. Your chance of decision will be final. Your chance of winning is not dependent or related to your choice of Rookies of the Year. Prizes are non-transferable. No cash alternate or substitution for prizes as offered. Limit one prize per family. The odds of winning will be determined by the number of entries received. ALL PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED.

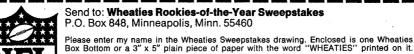
8. All taxes, if any, will be the responsibility of the prize winners.

9. This sweepstakes is open to all residents of the Continental United States, Alaska and Hawaii. Employees and their families of General Mills, Inc., National Football League, American Motors and American Airlines, their advertising agencies and the judging organization will not be eligible. Void in the states of Washington, Idaho, Missouri, Georgia and wherevar else prohibited or restricted by law. All Federal, State and Local laws and regulations apply.

Local laws and regulations apply.

10. Winners will be notified by mail within 30 days after the drawing, which will take place the week of December 19, 1972. First Prize winners will be notified by phone and telegram by December 27, 1972. The complete list of winners, certified by the judges, will be available for examination at the general offices of General Mills, Inc., and the judging organization following the awarding of prizes. You may obtain a list of winners of the 1,012 top prizes by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to:

Wheaties Rookies of the Year Sweepstakes Winners 400 Second Avenue South Minneapolis, Minnesota 55440



Here are my selections: **AFC ROOKIE**

city

N	۱F	C	RO	0	ΚI	E

team phone



63

How has business been lately, Herr Bentheimer? Falling off a bit? Thought perhaps you might augment your income by pinching the Star of Liechtenstein, eh?"

Heinrich's father got to his feet and it looked as if he might explode.

I put up a hand quickly. "It seems to me that if the major didn't think about fingerprints

on the ashtray until the last second, so to speak—and that was hours after the real robberythen maybe he didn't think about them when he actually stole the Star of Liechtenstein. I'll bet there are fingerprints on the necklace, probably on the smooth back of the pendant thing that holds the diamond and all those famous jewels. I wonder how he can explain that

> to Inspector Dittmann?"

Major Wilkerson frowned and it looked as if he was trying to think back. Then he sighed heavily.

We had him.

Major Wilkerson got slowly to his feet and looked us over, "I'm afraid I must be going."

He went for the front door-and we let him.

Then we congregated around the open doorway to see how he would do out there, considering that it was still snowing and there was about three feet of the stuff over everything, including his car, the driveway, and the road beyond the gates.

He lost his slippers on the first half-dozen steps, and then hit a low spot and sank into the snow up to his chest.

He stood there, in the moonlight, looking at what was ahead, then he turned and made his way back to the house.

Inside, he brushed snow off his dressing gown, pajamas, and bare feet, while Frau Bentheimer got him another pair of slippers.

He sighed. "Besides that, I suddenly remembered that I left my ignition keys in my trousers upstairs."

Inspector Dittmann and his men arrived 20 minutes later, On skis, Frau Bentheimer met them at the door. "Would all of you like a nice hot, cup of coffee?"



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